GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:673
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2002
PERFORMANCE OF INDIAN OFFICERS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES
KANTI SINGH

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Information Service Officers are posted in foreign countries to collect news for AIR and Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details of officers posted at each station for the last three years alongwith the expenditure borne by the Government on each of them annually;

(c) whether these officers have not been able to prove their talent in comparison to other private channels who give more coverage of their T.V. Channel;

(d) if so, the details thereof, and reasons therefor;

(e) whether there is any proposal to review the present policy in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Details of the officers posted at each station for the last three years alongwith the yearly expenditure thereon is given in the Annexure.

(c) & (d): Prasar Bharati has seven posts of Special Correspondents abroad tocover the events taking place outside the country. They play a vital role in meeting the requirements of the listeners and viewers of Prasar Bharati. The Correspondents posted in foreign countries have been providing both on the spot coverage of events and in-depth analysis of the developments taking place in the country/region concerned. Prasar Bharati`s Special Correspondents abroad contribute a great deal toAIR & Doordarshan`s coverage of foreign events.

(e): No, Sir.

(f): Does not arise.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.673 for answer on 21/11/2002.

S.No. Name & Country Yearly Break-up Pay & Allowances + Travel Expenses + Office Expenses (Amount)
2000-2001 2001-2002 2002-2003

1.Smt. Shakuntala Mahawal,
Brussels Correspondent Rs.32.58 lakhs Rs.36.87 lakhs Rs.16.90 lakhs (upto 10/2002)

2.Shri A.K. Rout, Dhaka
Correspondent Rs.35.57 lakhs Rs.30.49 lakhs Rs.14.31 lakhs (upto 10/2002)

3.Shri Mohan Chandak,
Colombo Correspondent Rs.22.94 lakhs Rs.22.10 lakhs Rs.14.65 lakhs (upto 10/2002)

4.Shri P.John Churchill,
Hong Kong
Correspondent Rs.44.75 lakhs Rs.43.50 lakhs Rs.30.60 lakhs (upto 10/2002)

5.Shri Amitabh Chakrabarti,
Washington
Correspondent Rs.30.62 lakhs Rs.31.70 lakhs Rs.23.30 lakhs (upto 10/2002)

6.Shri R.S. Shukla,
Kathmandu (retired on
31/5/2002) Rs.21.82 lakhs Rs.20.68 lakhs Rs.05.94 lakhs

7.Shri Ramji Tripathi, Dubai
Correspondent (retired on
28/2/2002) Rs.33.09 lakhs Rs.40.74 lakhs